

**From:** Scott Walter  
**To:** Microsoft ATR  
**Date:** 1/23/02 6:21pm  
**Subject:** Microsoft Settlement

Public Comment:

Microsoft has abused its monopoly with Windows Operating System and has engaged in hugely anti-competitive business practices.

The settlement proposal offered by Microsoft is, in a word, a joke. They propose to give schools free software and refurbished PC's, which would do nothing more than expand their already ludicrous marketshare. This would be particularly detrimental to the likes of Apple Computer, AOL/Time Warner (Netscape Internet Browser), and all other competing products.

Microsoft must be be punished severely for its years of anti-competitive practices, whether by settlement or court decision. At the minimum, a very large fine (or cash donation to schools) should be imposed. To be effective, this amount must be at least \$750 million. Microsoft should also issue a "statement of intent" as a press release, admitting wrongdoing and promising change. As further punishment, Microsoft should be required to list alternatives to its Windows Operating System/Explorer with any donation (to any school) it makes. This would guarantee a fair and balanced settlement and ensure the school's choice of hardware and software. In particular, Microsoft should be forced to mention "Apple/Mac OS", "Netscape" and even the "Linux" OS.

Thank you.

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